

- CLAIMS -

1.- A Supply device for a snow gun comprising at least one valve for circulating either pressurised water or pressurised air, which valve contains, in a single piece body (1):

- 5 - a through channel (5) forming the fluid intake and also serving as a through passage for the said fluid,
- a fluid outlet port (9), situated above the said channel (5),
- a bleed orifice (16) beneath the said channel (5),
- a cylindrical bore (12) arranged according to an axis perpendicular to the axis
- 10 (3) of the said channel (5), in which a slide valve (14) is accommodated, which is mobile under the effect of a control member (65), which slide valve is provided to, in one case, put the said channel (5) in communication with the said outlet port (9), and to, in another case, put the said outlet port (9) in communication with the said bleed orifice (16) in order to bleed the fluid outlet system.
- 15 2.- A Supply device for a snow gun according to claim 1, characterised in that it comprises at least one valve whose body (1) is arranged at the level of both ends of the channel (5), in an identical fashion, for accommodating and fixing either various accessories such as connectors, plugs or others, or other valve bodies.
- 20 3.- A Supply device for a snow gun according to any of the claims 1 or 2, characterised in that the slide valve (14) comprises a bleed channel (59) consisting of an axial bore located at its lower section, leading via a conduit (61) into the duct (10) of the outlet port (9) to perform the bleeding, which channel (59) is open or closed according to the position of the said slide valve by means of a plug (62) extending axially from the lower end of the body.
- 25 4.- A Supply device for a snow gun according to claim 3, characterised in that the slide valve (14) is guided at its lower end into a jacket (45) integral with the valve body (1), which jacket comprises a punched bottom (49) to enable the fluid to flow during the said bleeding, which bottom supports the plug (62) which closes the bleed channel (59) when the slide valve is in inactive blanking off position.

5.- A Supply device for a snow gun according to any of the claims 1 to 4, characterised in that the cylindrical bore (12) of the body (1) between the intake channel (4) and the duct (10) of the outlet port (9), comprises a zone (54) provided in the form of a mixer enabling, in co-operation with the cylindrical section (43) forming the plug of the slide valve, to vary the through opening of the fluid as the slide valve moves between a completely open position and its closed position.

10 6.- A Supply device for a snow gun according to any of the claims 1 to 5, characterised in that the control means of the slide valve (14) consist of a reduction gear (65) located in a cap (2) that is attached to the top of the body (1), in a tight fashion, which cap also contains a mechanism plate (72) on which are gathered in the form of an integrated circuit the various control systems of the said reduction gear, the circuits associated with the limit switches (71) triggered by a finger (69) attached to the upper end of the said slide valve (14),
15 the control circuit of the resistor (75) serving to re-heat the body to prevent frost problems and, possibly, the water pressure measuring circuits in the intake channel (5) and in the outlet channel (10), whereas the body is fitted with a connector (77) or a tight grommet orifice..

20 7.- A Supply device for a snow gun according to any of the claims 1 to 6, characterised in that the intake and/or through orifices (4) of the channel (5) comprise a double cylindrical bore (20, 21), one of which provides the necessary tightness, and the other, enables to fasten the accessories associated with the body (1), which fastening means consist of a keying system (30) in the form of needles, which needles are diametrically opposite in holes
25 (29) opening into the external bore (21) and enable the said needles to co-operate with a groove (26) provided on the corresponding cylindrical section (25) of the said accessory.

30 8.- A Supply device for a snow gun according to claim 7, characterised in that the keys (30) are interconnected together, forming a kind of U that can be fixed to the body by any appropriate means, in particular a screw (32) serving simultaneously as a blocking member of the accessory by clamping the said using the said keys.

9.- A Supply device for a snow gun according to any of the claims 7 or 8, characterised in that the accessory which can be associated to the body (1) has either the shape of a plug (37) or of a tubular socket (22), which enables to associate and to juxtapose two bodies (1), either in the form of a plug socket (39) that enables to associate to the body (1) while separating the fluids of each body, or a T-shaped connection piece (36) or a socket (34) or an elbow (40) still.